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CLASSIFICATION

CONFIDENTIALCOUNTRY Austria

REPORT NO

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TOPIC Soviet Troops in St. Poelten, Mauer Oehling and AmstettenEVALUATION See Below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 25 and 26 January 1951DATE OBTAINED 25X1A DATE PREPARED 23 March 1951REFERENCES 25X1APAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Soldiers observed near the barracks area west of Schliesstattring in St. Poelten (O 49/W 88) on 25 January 1951 wore black bordered red epaulets, red bordered black epaulets and, a smaller number, black-bordered black epaulets. There was much activity at the garages. Motor vehicles observed at the Soviet mail office included truck with personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets and tank insignia; sedan ; truck with personnel wearing red-bordered black epaulets; and jeep .
2. Soldiers seen on 25 January in the area of the Kommandatura on Linzerstrasse in St. Poelten wore black-bordered red epaulets. There was no traffic at the installation on Theresienstrasse.
3. On 25 January the castle of Viehofen (O 49/W 88) was guarded by sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The installation was off limits.
4. No arms or armored vehicles were seen in the camp of Spratzorn on 25 January. There was little activity. Motor vehicles observed included three trucks occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. *
5. About 70 infantrymen were drilling in the Soviet-occupied section of the Land insane asylum in Mauer Oehling (O 49/W 26) on 26 January. About 25 motor vehicles were seen. Local residents stated that field exercises had recently been conducted in the area southwest of Mauer Oehling during which time snow sheds were built and the troops camped in the open. There were no movements seen in the installation, which was believed to be a fuel dump and which was guarded by personnel wearing black-bordered red epaulets. **
6. Personnel seen at the Soviet hospital on Elsa Brandtstroeckstrasse in Amstetten (O 49/W 27) on 26 January included two women medical officers ranking as major, two women medical officers ranking as captain, and corporals wearing red-bordered black epaulets. Most soldiers seen in Amstetten wore red-bordered black epaulets. The kommandatura was occupied by soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets. There was little traffic. ***

7. Little activity was observed in the Franz Josef Kaserne in St. Poelten on 25

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January. Soldiers seen in the installation, which belongs to the Schiesstattring barracks block, wore red service color. A company-size unit marching on Schiesstattring wore red service color, and consisted of young soldiers in winter uniform who were armed with rifles and submachine guns. Each of the three platoons had a light machine gun. Motor vehicles seen in the installation included 16 trucks and 8 jeeps. No weapons or armored vehicles were observed. Truck [redacted] driven by a soldier wearing red service color hauled lumber to the installation.

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8. The Rainer-Kaserne on Schiesstattring in St. Poelten was used as a billeting area on 25 January. No details were available, since the installation was completely off limits.

9. The district court on Schiesstattring in St. Poelten was guarded by a sentry wearing red service color on 25 January. Within a short time 32 soldiers of all ranks were seen entering or leaving the building. Most of them wore red service color. A platoon-size unit with red service color, armed with rifles and carrying tarretr, left the installation.

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10. On 25 January 12 officers and civilians, including women, were seen near the two-story building of the Stadtsaele in St. Poelten. The installation belongs to the barracks block on Schiesstattring.

11. The Kommandatura was stationed in a three-story villa on Linzerstrasse in St. Poelten on 25 January. There was almost no traffic.

12. About 30 Soviet officers, most of them wearing red service color, were seen at the three-story building on the south side of Hessestrasse in St. Poelten on 25 January. The building is situated between Schiesstattring and Schiesstattpromenade. No corporals or EW were seen.

13. On 25 January Soviet officers seen at the Soviet store on the north side of Stoehrstrasse between Schiesstattring and Schiesstattpromenade in St. Poelten wore red service color, except for a few who wore black service color. The entrance gates of a building located across the south side of Stoehrstrasse from the store was marked with large red crosses. Motor vehicles observed included trucks [redacted]

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Comment. Except Viehofen Castle and the camp in Spratzorn, all the objects mentioned are located in the so-called Kasernenviertel. The installation on Hessestrasse probably is an officers mess. The castle of Viehofen is on the northern perimeter of St. Poelten, between the railroad to Krems and Kremsier Landstrasse. The motor vehicles observed belong to [redacted] the 95th Gds Itz Rifle Div. The information supplied [redacted], as well as that supplied by [redacted] reported for the first time, indicates no change since the last report.

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Comment. [redacted] components of the 95th Gds Itz Rifle Div also are located in Tauer Oehling. Compared to information by same source in late December 1950, the present report indicates no change in occupation.

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*** Comment. A hospital is probably stationed in Amstetten.

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